Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council

Houma, LA
September 11, 2014
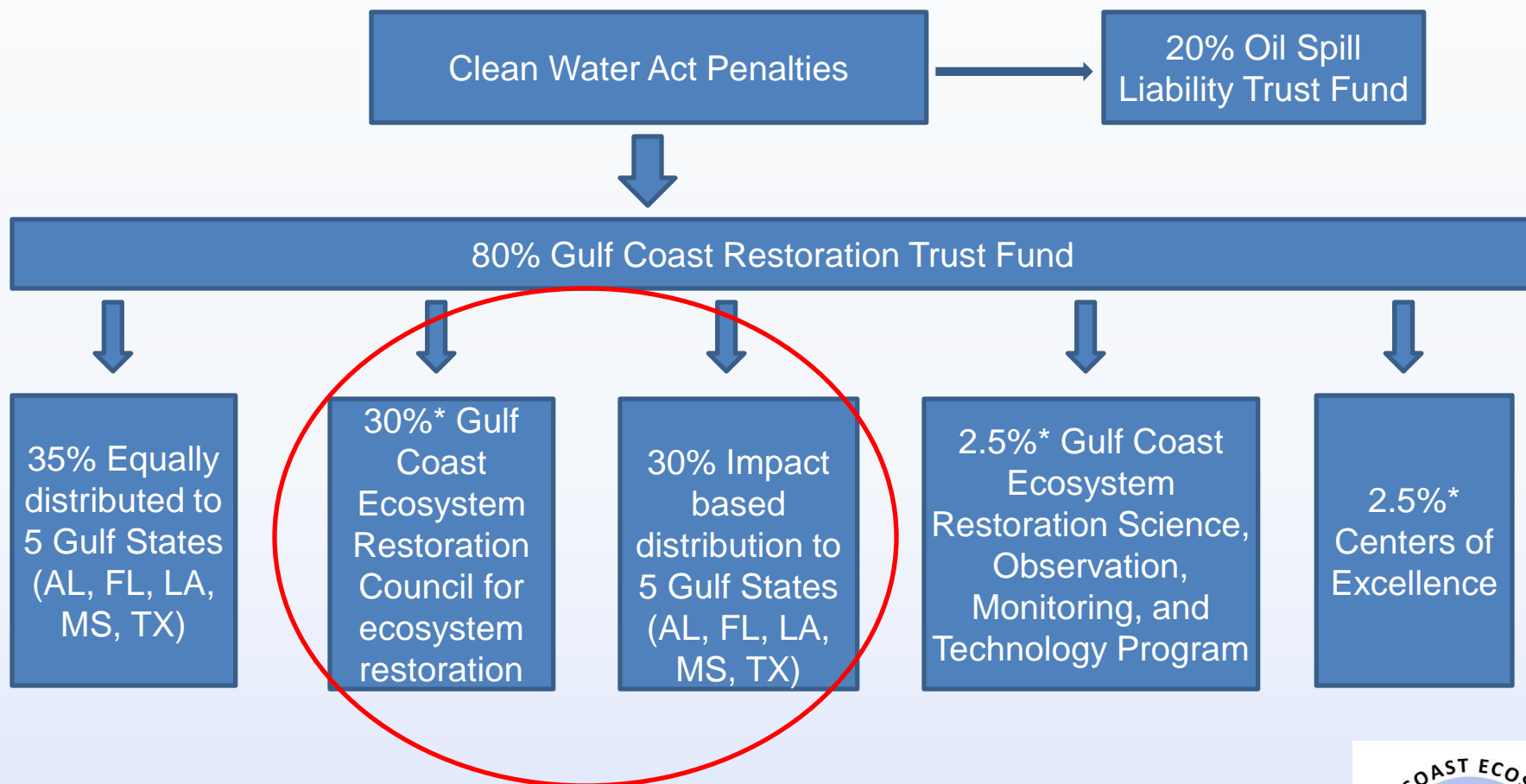
ALLOCATION OF RESTORE ACT FUNDS

Clean Water Act Penalties → 20% Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund

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80% Gulf Coast Restoration Trust Fund

- 35% Equally distributed to 5 Gulf States (AL, FL, LA, MS, TX)
- 30%* Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council for ecosystem restoration
- 30% Impact based distribution to 5 Gulf States (AL, FL, LA, MS, TX)
- 2.5%* Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Science, Observation, Monitoring, and Technology Program
- 2.5%* Centers of Excellence

*Supplemented by interest generated by the Trust Fund (50% to Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council, 25% to Science Program, 25% to Centers of Excellence)
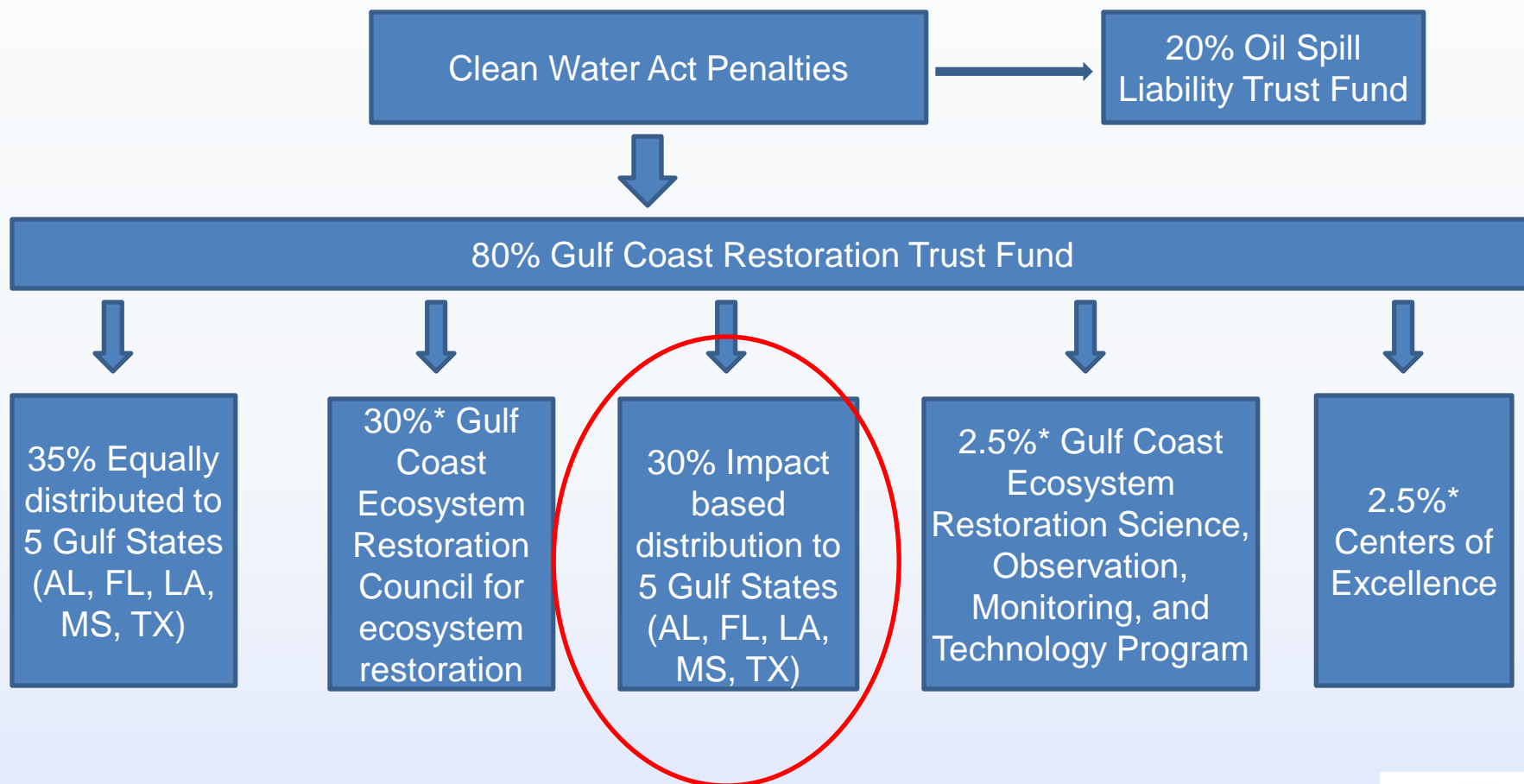
GULF COAST ECOSYSTEM **RESTORE** RESTORATION COUNCIL

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ALLOCATION OF RESTORE ACT FUNDS
Spill Impact Component

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Spill Impact Component

- Spill impact Component funds will be invested in projects, programs and activities identified in State Expenditure Plans (SEPs).
- SEPs will be drafted by the States and approved by the Chair of the Council.
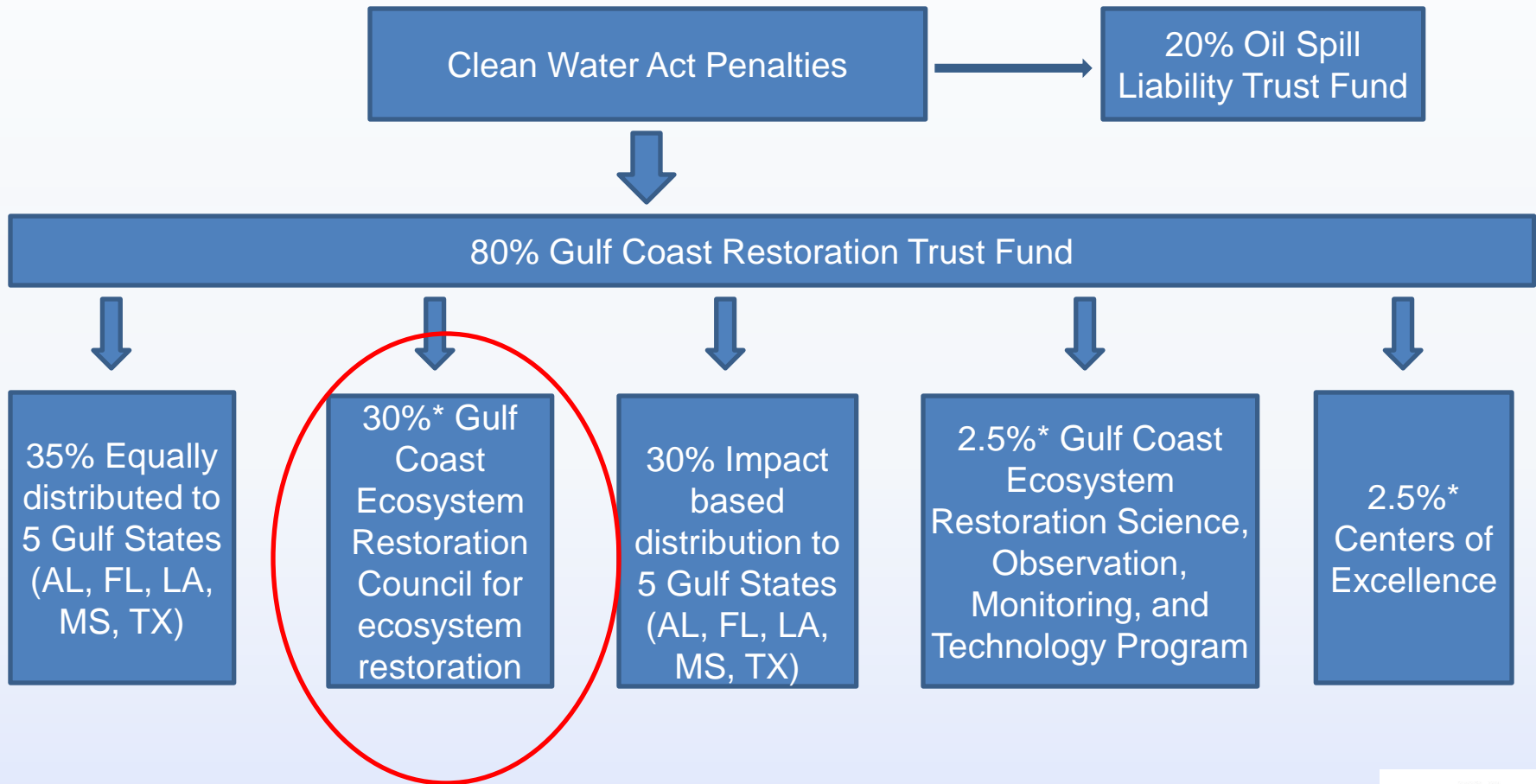- Each state has a different process to develop their SEP.

Spill Impact Component Status

- Interim Final Rule (IFR) published August 22, 2014. Comment period closes September 22, 2014.
  - Provides access to up to 5% of the funds available to each State under the Oil Spill Impact Component for planning.
- In the coming months, the Council will release a proposed rule that sets forth the final oil spill impact formula and sets levels of funding provided to each State.

ALLOCATION OF RESTORE ACT FUNDS
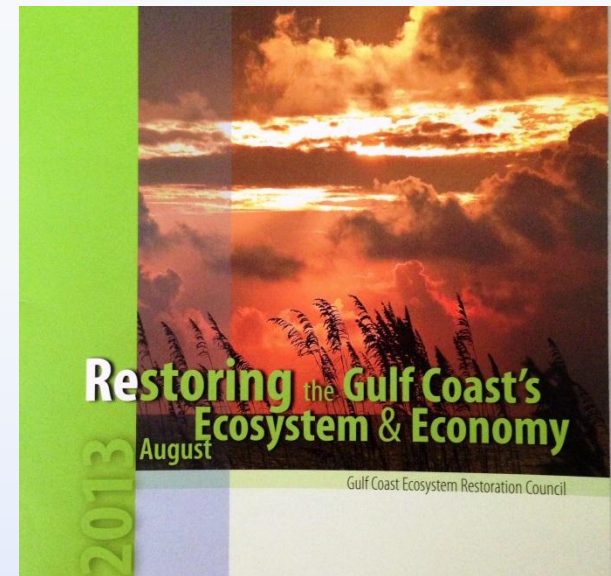## Council-Selected Restoration Component

Clean Water Act Penalties → 20% Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund

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RESTORE
GULF COAST ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION COUNCIL

Goals and Objectives of the Comprehensive Plan

1. Restore and Conserve Habitat

2. Restore Water Quality

3. Replenish and Protect Living Coastal and Marine Resources

4. Enhance Community Resilience

5. Restore and Revitalize the Gulf Economy

Restoring the Gulf Coast's Ecosystem & Economy
August 2013
Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council

Process for Council-Selected Restoration Component

Projects Submitted. Projects may focus on Habitat and Water Quality goals, with an emphasis on projects that are foundational, sustainable, have a high probability of success and that have community benefits.

Project Vetting Activities

Eligibility Verification and Budget Reasonableness, Coordination Reviews

Science Evaluation

Priority and Commitment to Plan Evaluation

Environmental Compliance Readiness

Results from proposal submission and evaluation will be compiled into a context report and attached to each proposal to aid in the development of a draft Funded Priorities List.

What You Need to Know

- The submission window for members opens August 21, 2014 and closes no earlier than November 17, 2014.

- Each state and federal member of the Council is responsible for proposing restoration projects and programs for consideration by the Council as a whole.

- Council members may submit up to 5 projects to the Council for consideration.

- Each Council member will not be able to submit every project they receive to the Council, just as everything submitted to the Council will not be included on the draft FPL.

What You Need to Know

- The amount of funding available for the first FPL is approximately $150-$180 million.

- Future amendments to the FPL will include significantly larger projects and project lists that reflect the full amount available to be spent for restoration activities. Additional input from the public will be solicited accordingly.

- Council members have different methods to gather project submissions and ideas. You can review the Council's Member Submission guidelines online. www.restorethegulf.gov.

Questions to Consider

1. What 5 words or phrases best describe your vision for a healthy Gulf of Mexico ecosystem in 5 years? 50 years?

2. People care about restoration, protection and enhancement of our natural resources for many different reasons. Why is ecosystem restoration important to you? What outcomes of restoration activities are most important to you?

3. What three activities do you most rely on or enjoy that depend on healthy natural resources in the Gulf of Mexico? Examples include: fishing, hunting, seafood, cultural heritage activities, bird watching, swimming, etc.

For More Information

www.RestoreTheGulf.gov

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